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FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY

TO: Examiner Mark Bell
Supervisor to Paul Marcantoni
Group 1755
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Fax#: 703-872-9366

FROM: James G. Stewart

Date: Friday, February 15, 2002

Number of pages (including this one): 22

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RE: Serial No. 09/481,988
Attorney Docket No. 1941-70

Dear Examiner Bell: Attached is a copy of the Response to the Advisory Action dated December 14, 2001. Thank you for agreeing to review it in the absence of Examiner Paul Marcantoni. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need to discuss the Response.

NOTICE

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PTO-2038 (02-2000)

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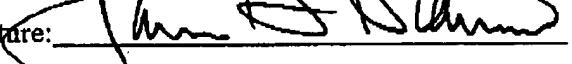
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Request and Payment Information

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Patent Fee	Patent Maintenance Fee	Trademark Fee	Other Fee
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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 1755**

**PATENT APPLICATION
Do. No. 1941-70**

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOLLOWING RESPONSE TO THE FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED OCTOBER 25, 2001 TO GROUP ART UNIT 1755 (EXAMINER MARK BELL) IS BEING FACSIMILE TRANSMITTED TO THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (FACSIMILE NO. (703) 872-9366) ON (FEBRUARY 15, 2002). (TOTAL PAGES TRANSMITTED IS 21 INCLUDING THIS ONE).

JUDY WIGMORE
(SENDER'S PRINTED NAME)

Judy Wigmore
(SIGNATURE)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Paul J. BRUINSMA; Suresh BASKARAN;
Jagannadha R. BONTHA and Jun LIU

Serial No. 09/481,988

Examiner: P. Marcantonio

Filed: January 11, 2000

Group Art Unit: 1755

For: MESOPOROUS-SILICA FILMS, FIBERS, AND POWDERS BY EVAPORATION

Box AF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Responsive to Advisory Action dated December 14, 2001.
The fee has been calculated as shown below.

<u>CLAIMS AS AMENDED</u>					
For:	Number After Amendment	Previous Claims Paid For	Extra	Rate	Additional Fee
Total Claims	73	-75*	0	x \$ 9 =	\$0
Independent Claims	15	-14**	0	x \$40 =	\$40
Extension of Time - 1 st					\$55
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$95

Applicant petitions the Commissioner to extend the time for response. The extension fee is included and a duplicate copy of this form is enclosed.

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 Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to deposit account number 13-1703.

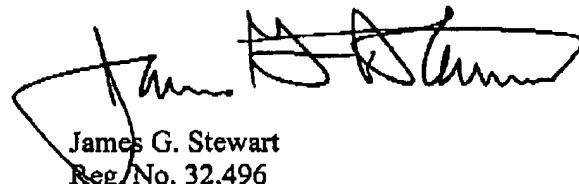


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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Respectfully submitted,

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19/Jan
2002
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EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 1755

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AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

This is in response to the Advisory Action dated December 14, 2001, whereby the Examiner stated that upon filing an appeal, he would enter the unentered Amendment in response to the Final Rejection. Instead, please enter this Amendment in response to the Final Rejection in place of the unentered Amendment.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. A method of making mesoporous silica materials, comprising the steps of
 - (a) combining a silica precursor with an aqueous solvent, an acid and a surfactant having an ammonium cation into a silica precursor solution,
 - (b) templating the silica precursor with the surfactant and obtaining the mesoporous material from the templated silica precursor,
 - (c) forming said silica precursor solution into a preform; and
 - (d) rapidly evaporating said aqueous solvent from said preform for obtaining the mesoporous material, wherein the improvement comprises: